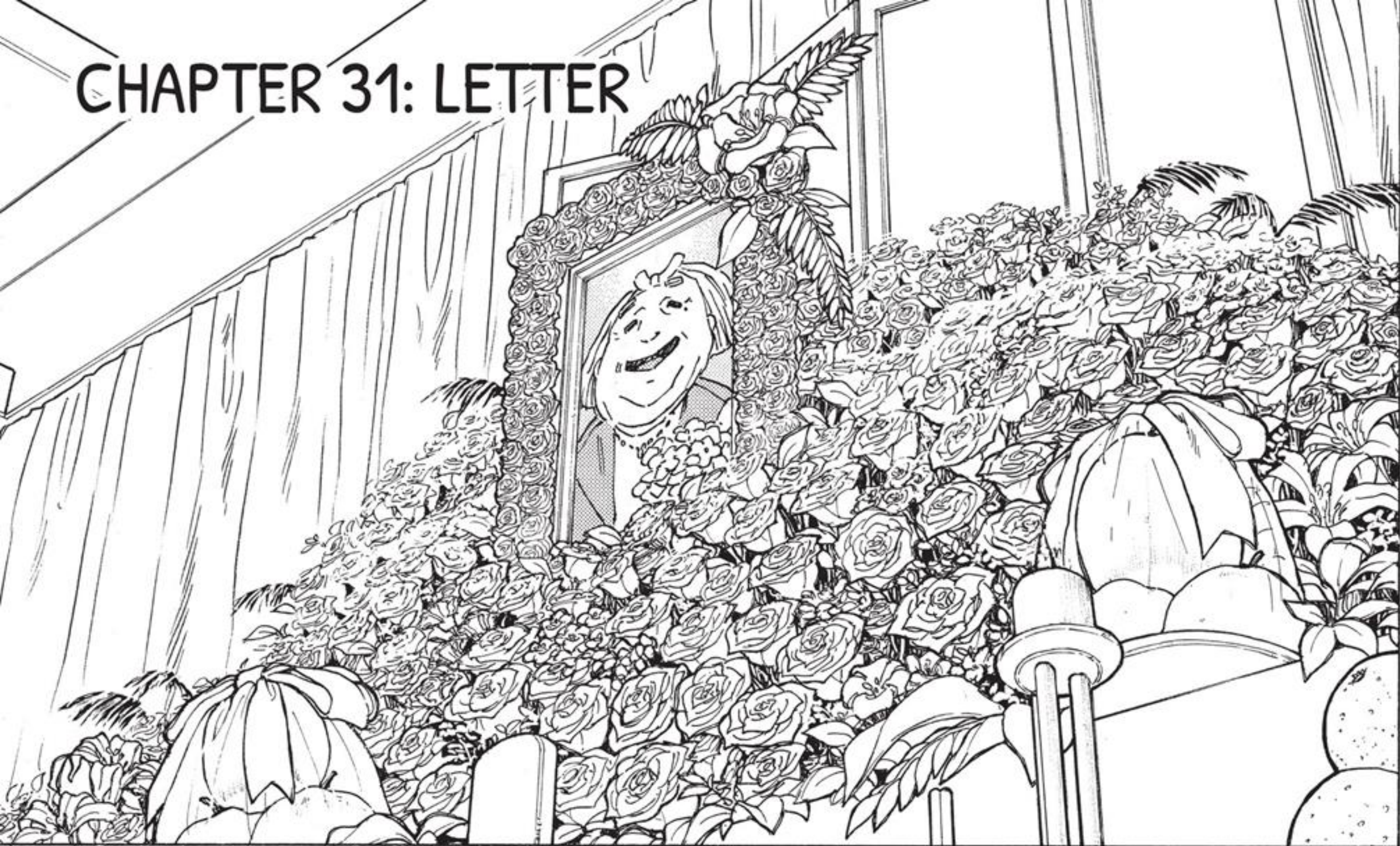
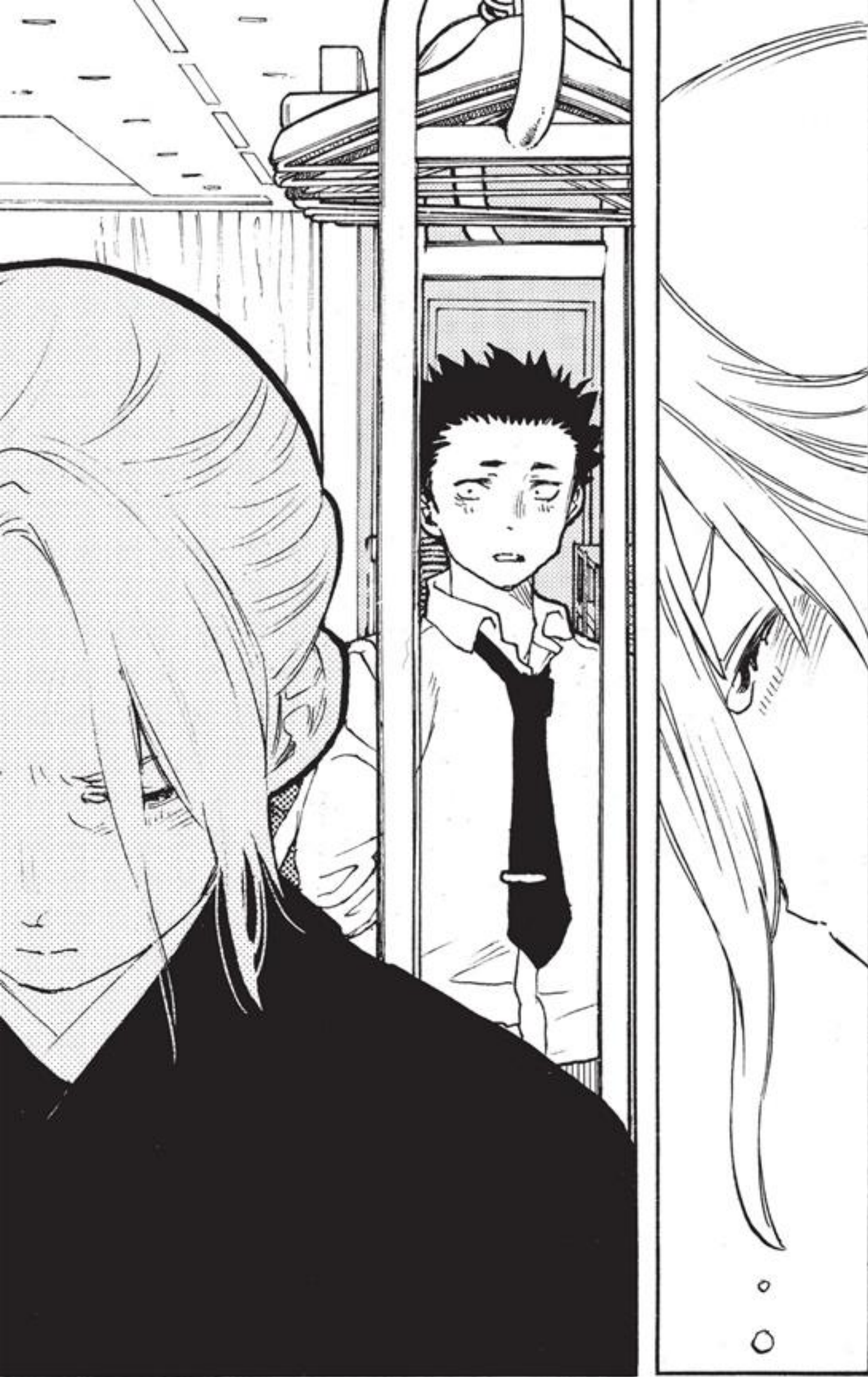


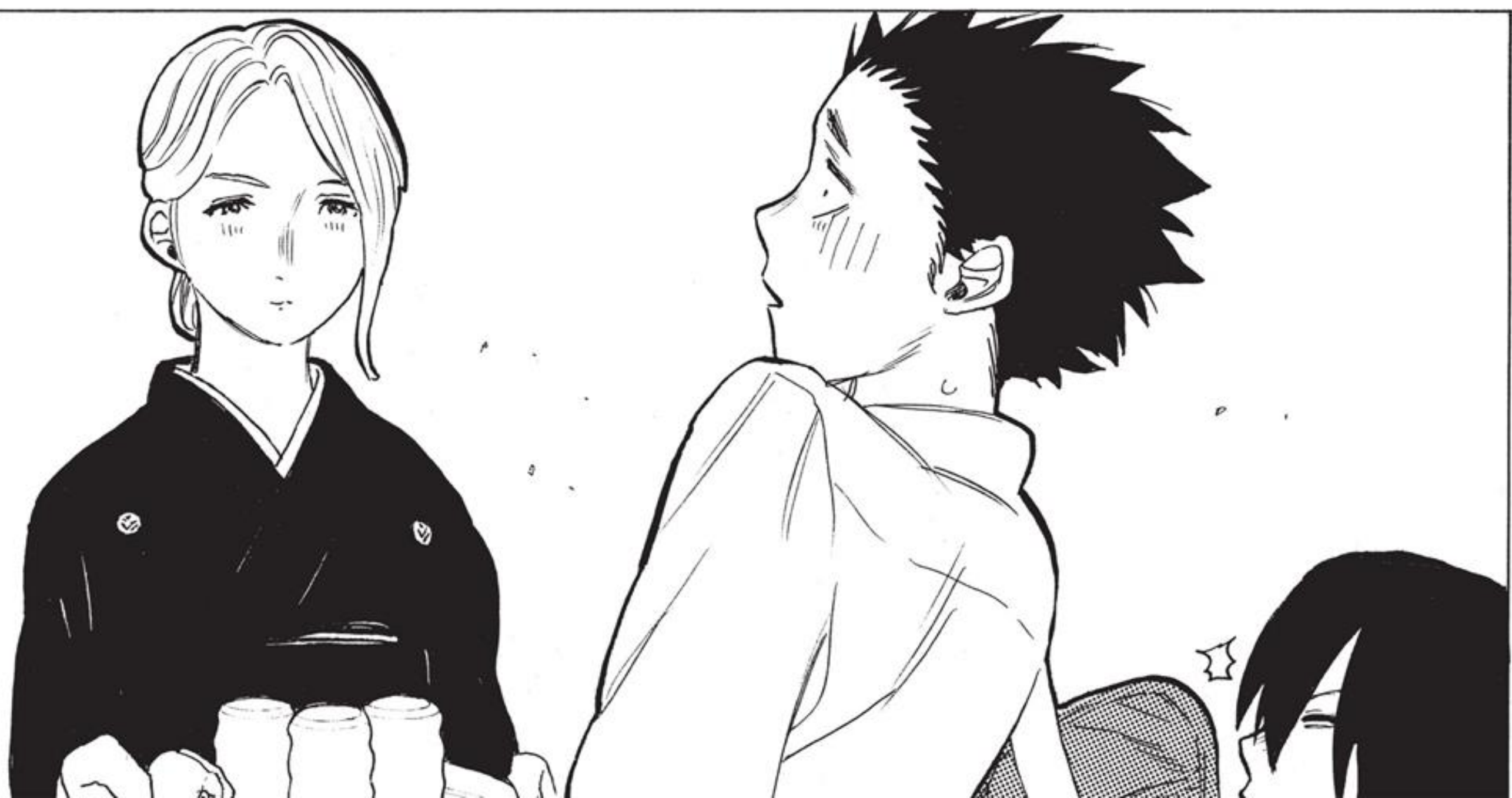
CHAPTER 31: LETTER



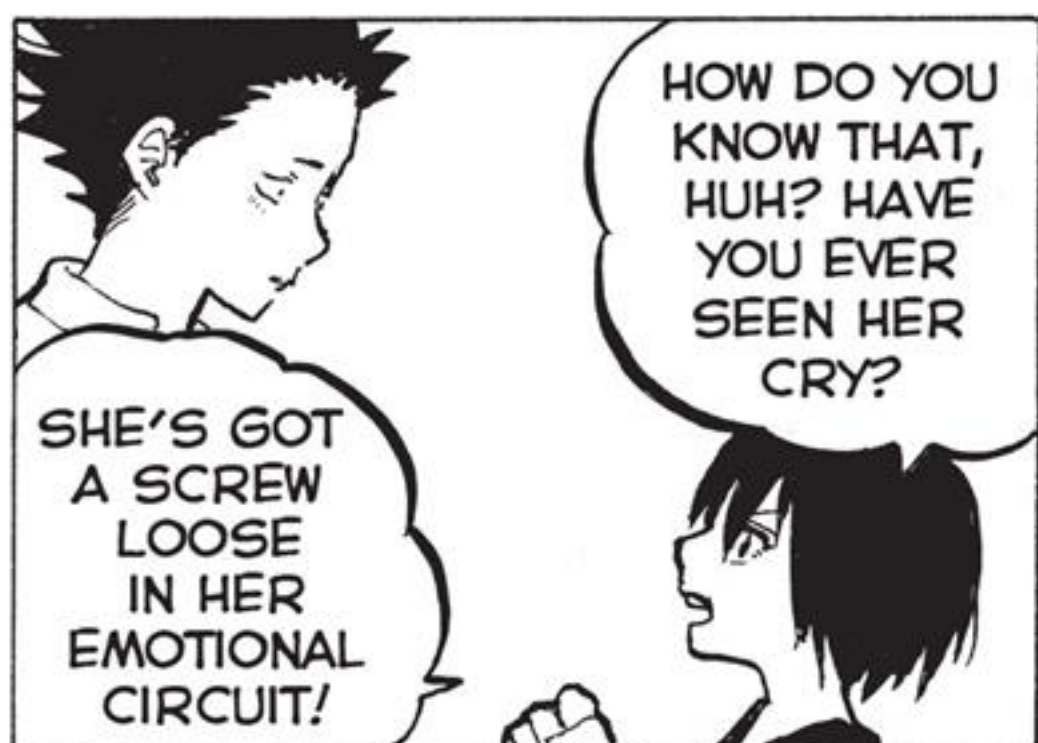














...A
LETTER?



I DIDN'T
NOTICE
IT WAS IN
THERE.



HMM?
WHAT THE
HECK IS
THIS?



DON'T
TELL ME
IT'S FROM
GRANNY?



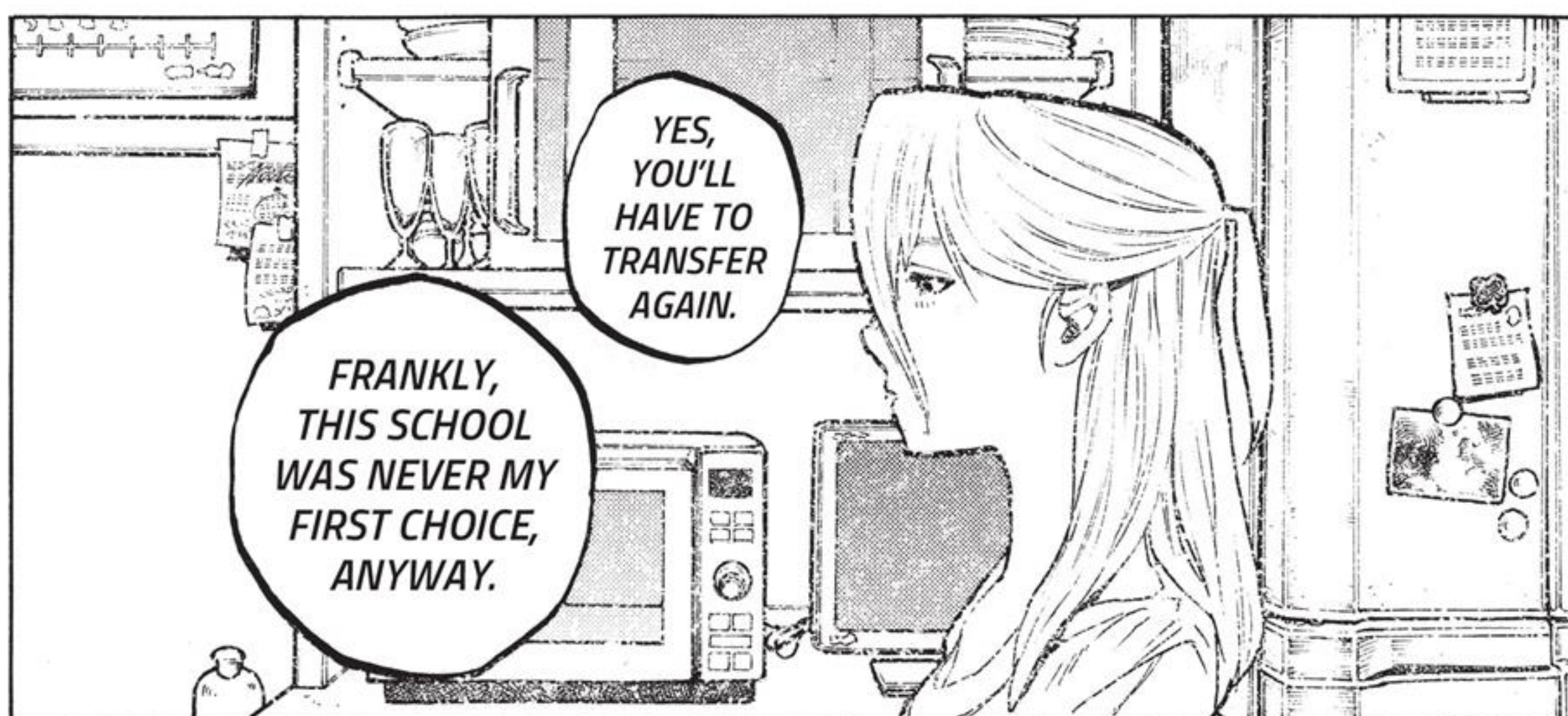
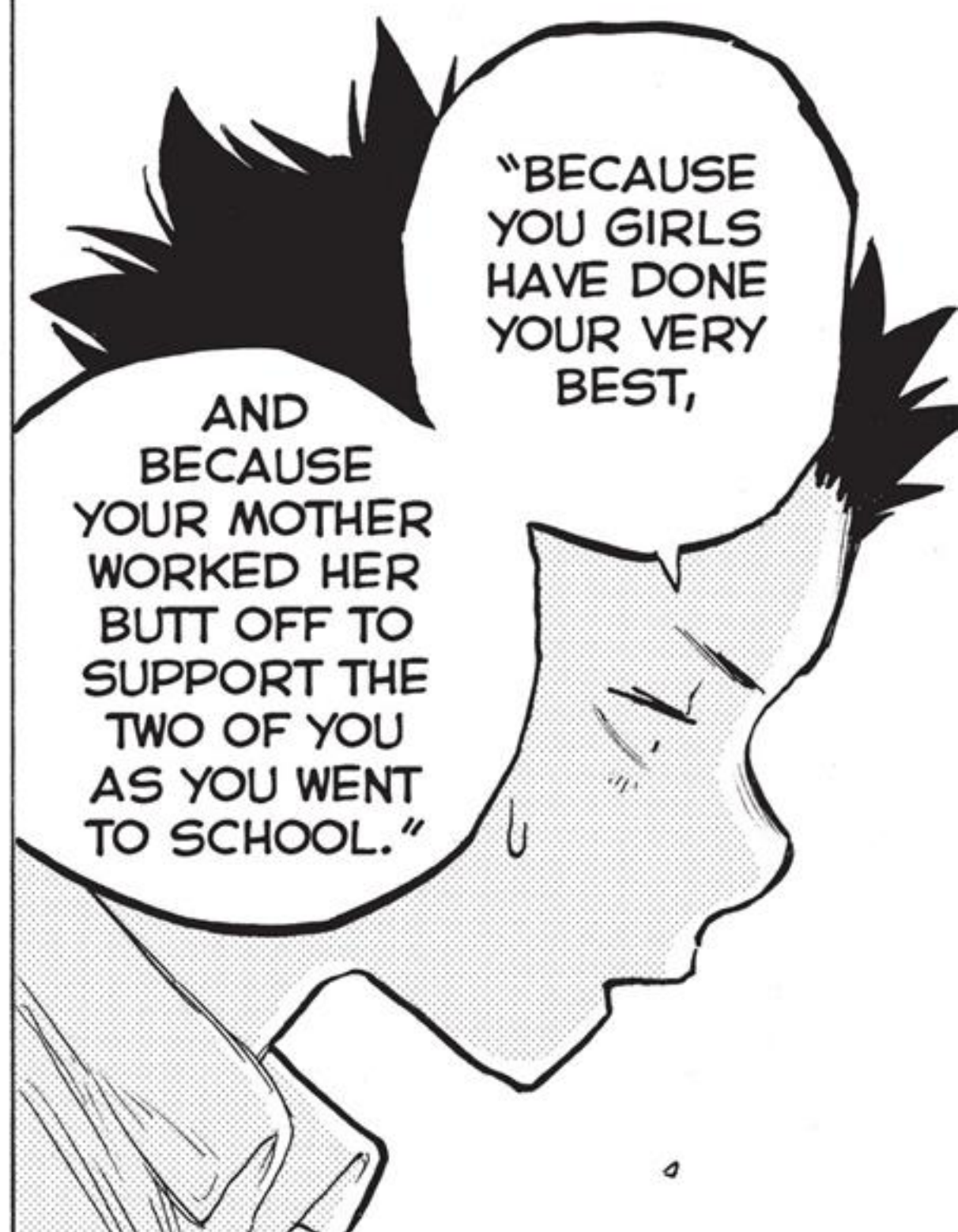
AHHH!
I DON'T
WANT TO
READ
THIS!

HOW FRIGGIN'
SCARY!
WHAT WAS IT
DOING IN MY
UNIFORM?!











SHE WAS
LIKE SOME
ACTRESS
PLAYING
THE CARING
MOTHER
IN SOME
TRAGEDY.

...THAT'S
TOTALLY
WRONG.
SHE WAS JUST
WAITING FOR
THE DAMAGE
TO GET BIG
ENOUGH.



YOUR
MOTHER WAS
WAITING
FOR HER TO
SOLVE THE
PROBLEM ON
HER OWN."

WH... "WHEN
SHOKO KEPT
LOSING
HEARING
AIDS...



THAT'S
THE
SIXTH
ONE.

THAT
ONLY
DRAGGED
THINGS
OUT!

WHAP



THAT'S
A PRETTY
HIGH-HANDED
APPROACH IF
YOU ASK ME!
WHAT ABOUT
SHOKO?!

"GROW
STRON-
GER"
?!

"I GUESS SHE
THOUGHT IT WAS A
GOOD CHANCE FOR
SHOKO TO GROW
STRONGER, EVEN IF
SHE COULDN'T SOLVE
THE PROBLEM."



COME ON,
SIT DOWN,
SHO.



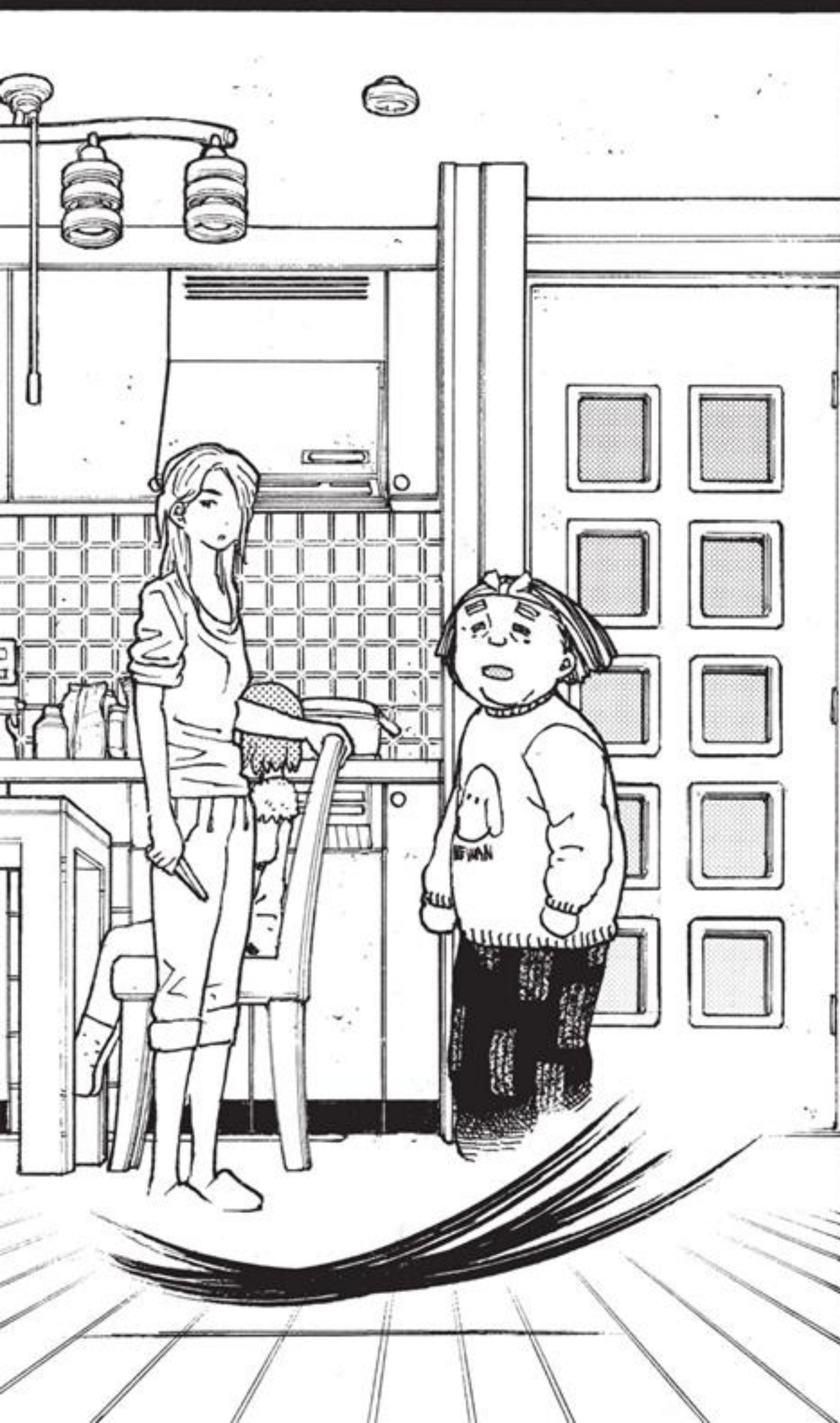
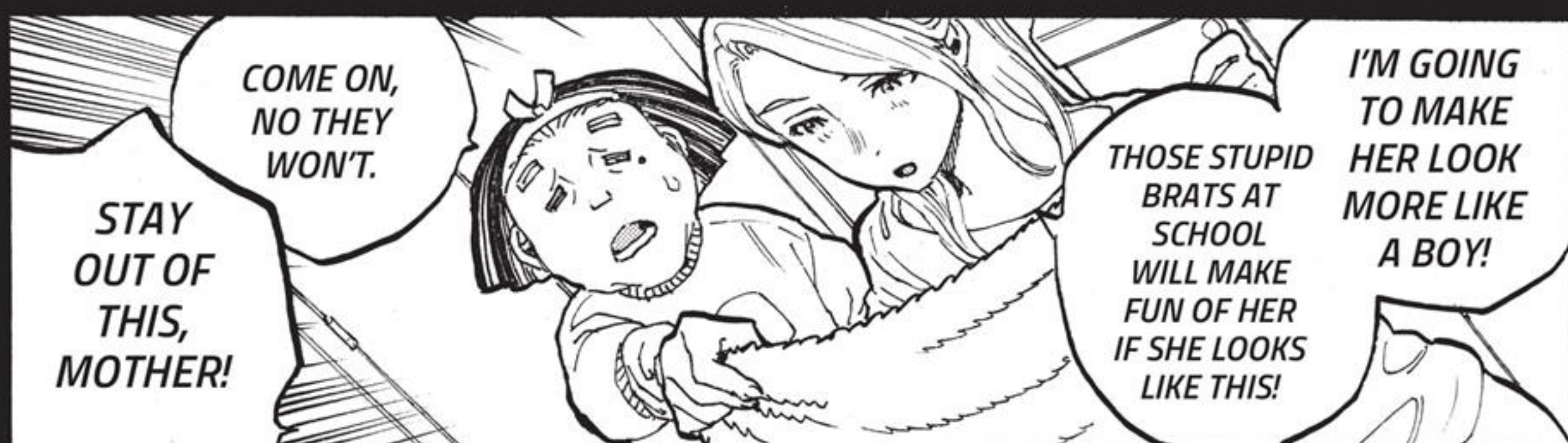
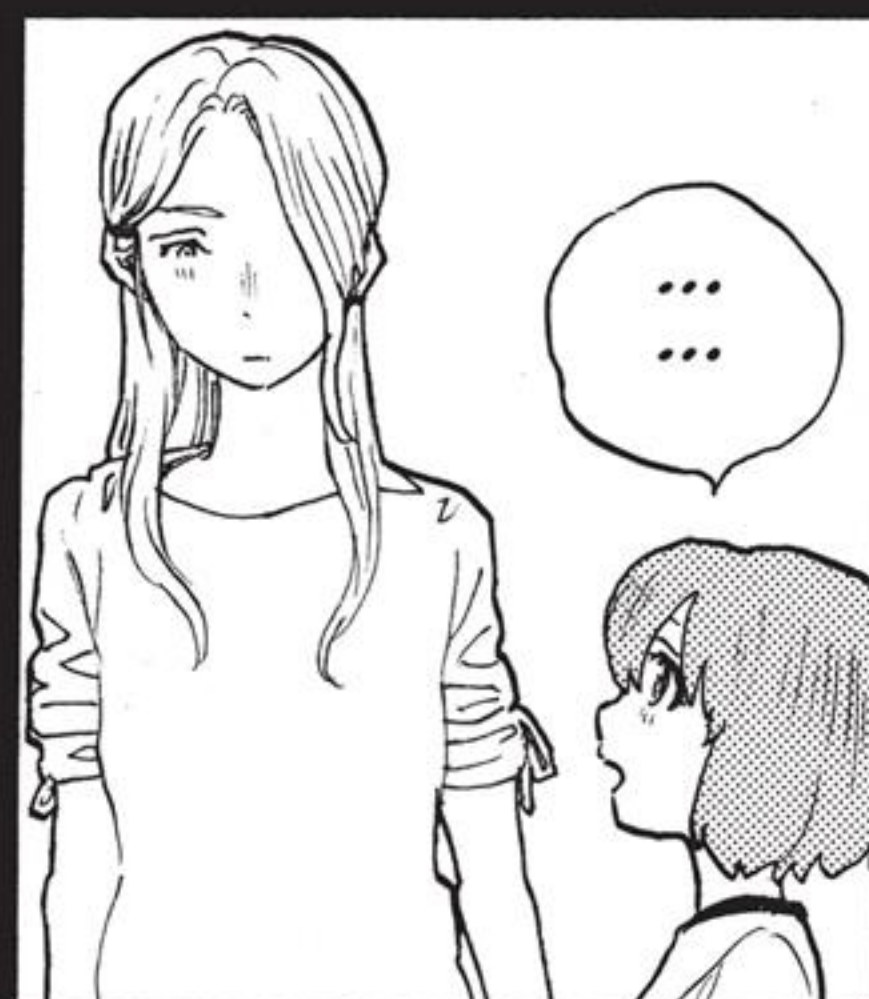
WE'RE
CUTTING
YOUR
HAIR.

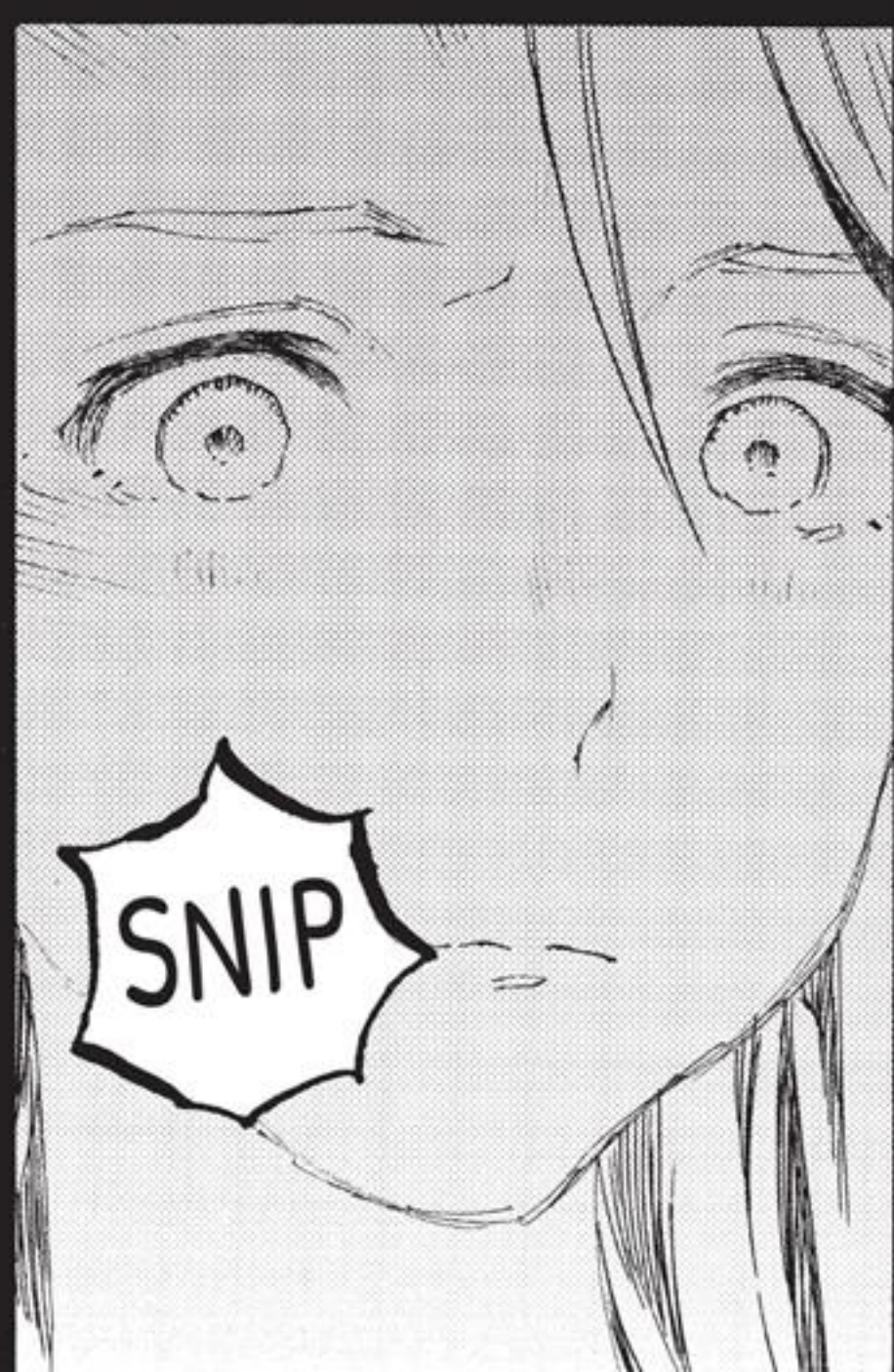
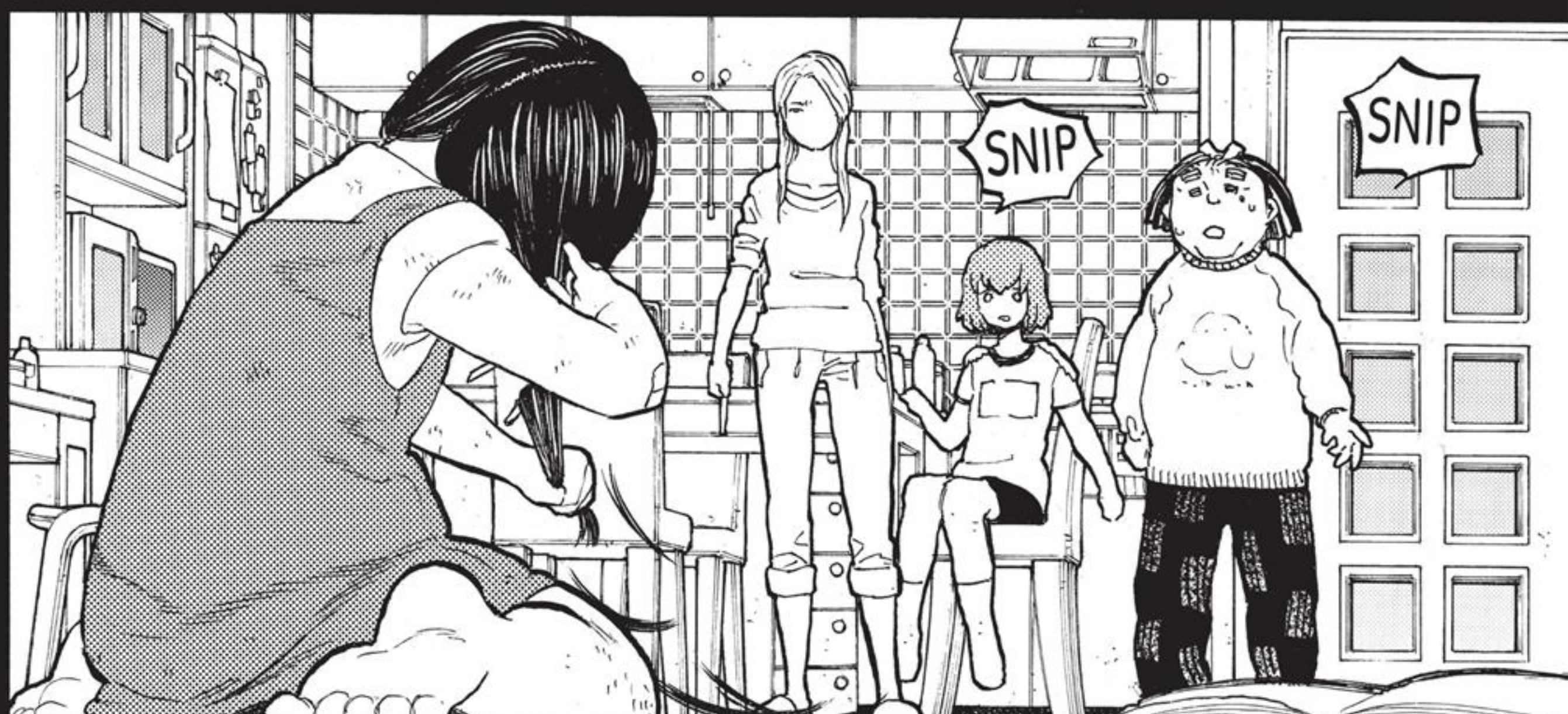
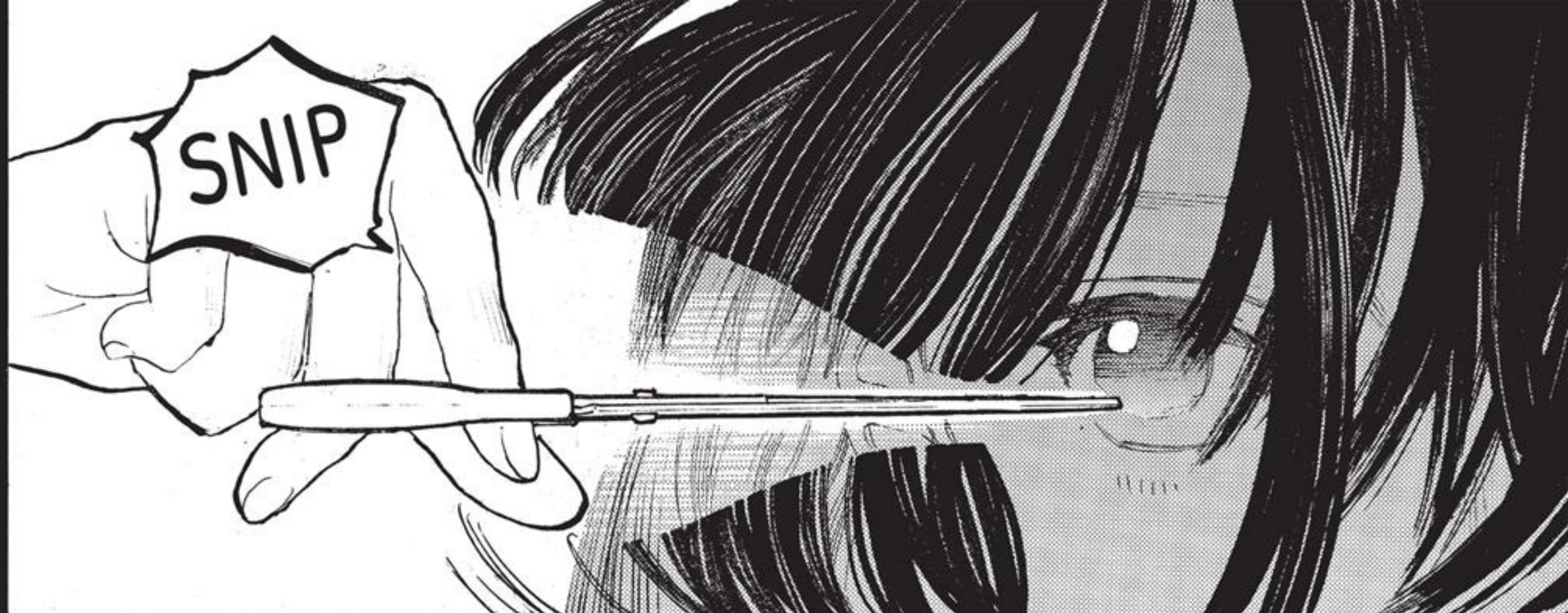


NO, I
DON'T.

YOU
DON'T
LIKE IT?

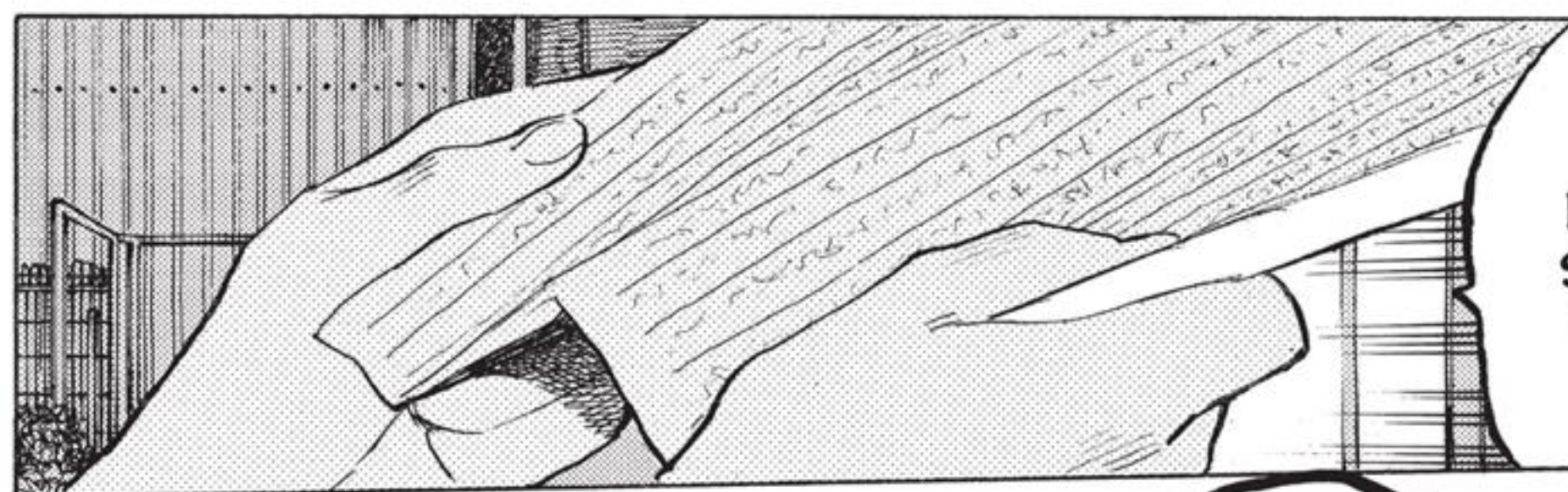
BUT SHE
JUST HAD
IT CUT...





HA

AHA



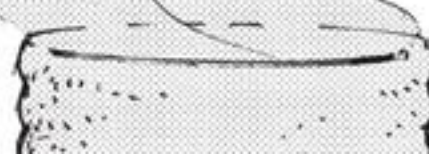
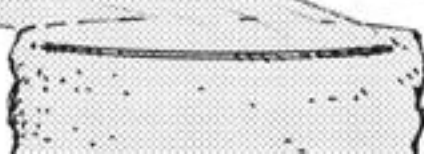
"IT SEEMS
YOUR MOTHER
BELIEVES BEING
STRICT WITH YOU
WILL MAKE YOU
STRONGER."



SO EVEN
TODAY, SHE
IS PROBABLY
FIGHTING
BACK HER
TEARS..."

"BUT SHE
APPLIES
THE SAME
RULE TO
HERSELF..."

"...AS SHE
DUTIFULLY
MAKES
TEA."





"THE SAME
WAY YOU
HID YOUR
TEARS
EARLIER,
YUZU."

"HEH
HEH."



WHAP!

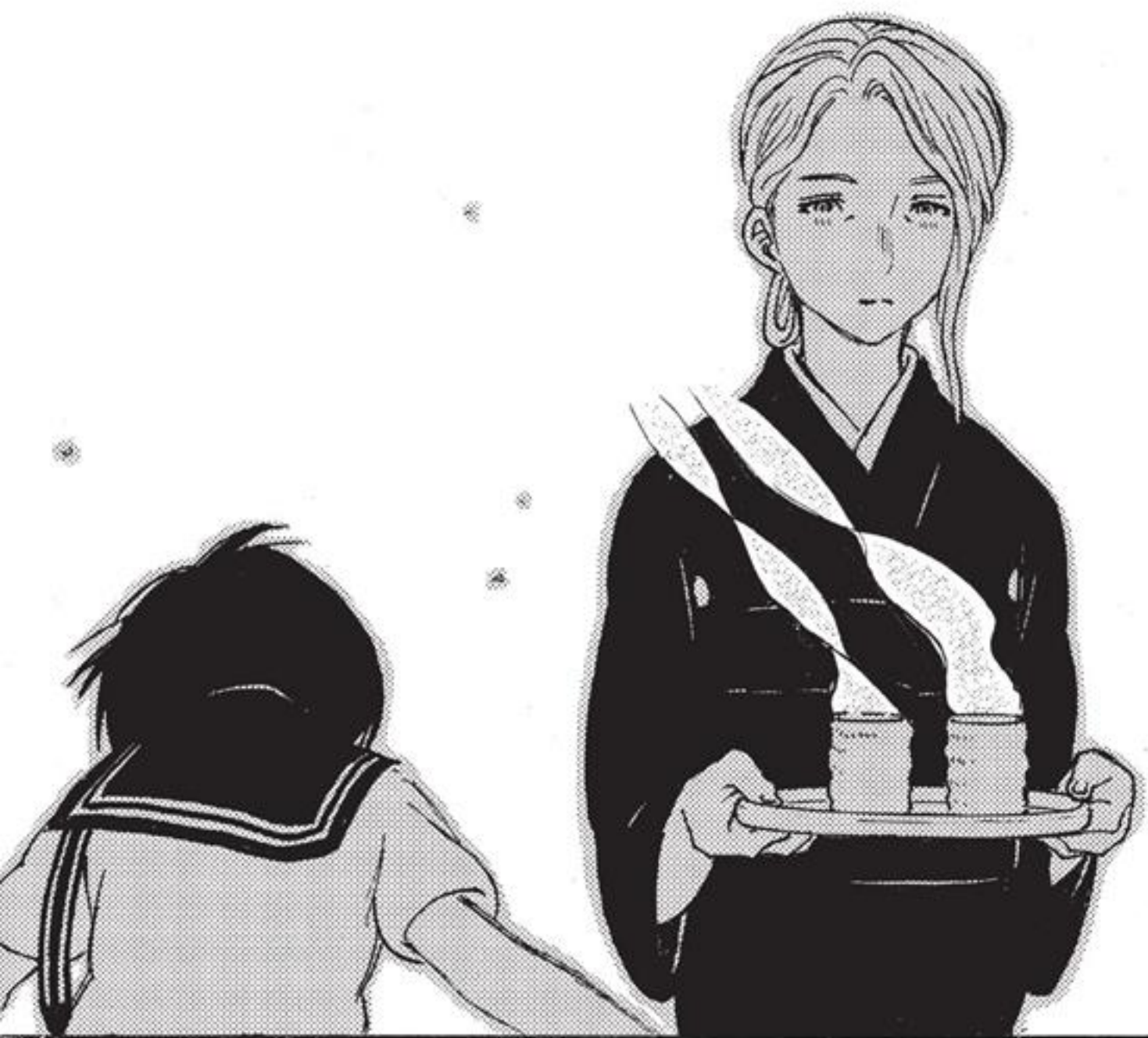


KRUNCH
KRUNCH



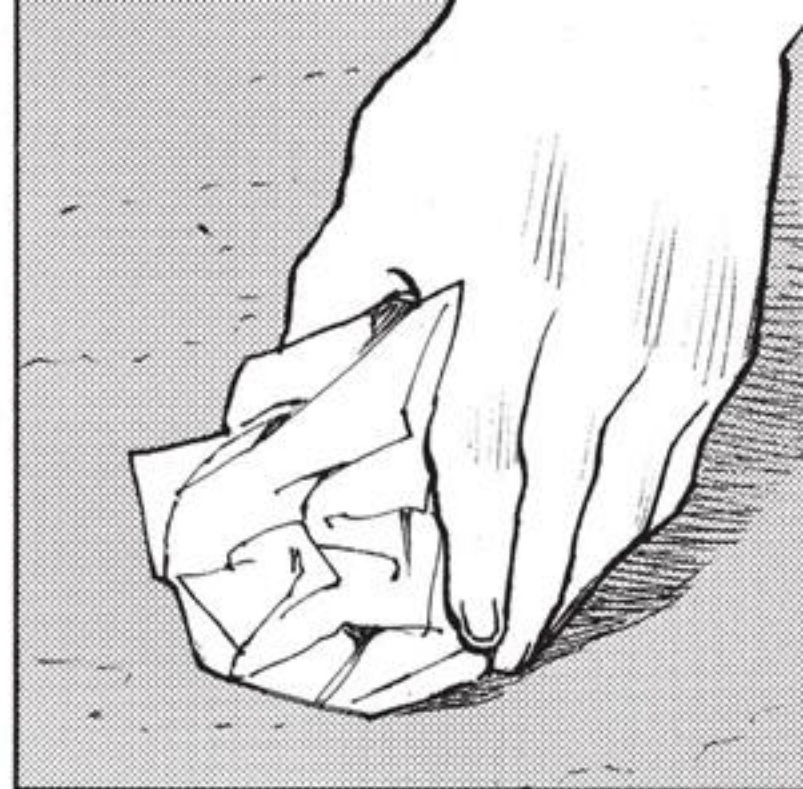
WH-WHAT
ARE YOU
DOING,
YUZURU?!

THANKS
FOR TODAY,
SHOYA.
YOU CAN
GO NOW.





I'LL, UM,
GO HOME
NOW...



I'M
SORRY,
MA'AM...



THANK
YOU FOR
BEING
FRIENDS
WITH
YUZURU.



SHOYA.

